

Attorney's Docket No. 3778.00

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**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

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As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

**TYPE OF DECLARATION**

This declaration is of the following type:

  X   original  
       design  
       substitution  
       divisional  
       continuation  
       continuation-in-part (CIP)

**INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION**

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) on the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**TITLE OF INVENTION**

**SPARE WHEEL ASSEMBLY**

**SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION**

the specification of which: (complete (a) or (b))

(a)   X   is attached hereto.

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as  
Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable)

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations 1.56(a). I further acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations 1.56(a), which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificates having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

| Prior Foreign Application(s), if applicable: |                |                          | Priority<br>Claimed |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Number</u>                                | <u>Country</u> | <u>Day/Mo./Yr. Filed</u> | Yes No              |

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Stephen R. Greiner:                      Registration No. 36,817

Direct all telephone calls to:              Stephen R. Greiner, Esquire  
(301) 571-7190

Address all correspondence to:              Stephen R. Greiner, Esquire  
GREINER LAW OFFICES, P.C.  
6701 Democracy Blvd., Suite 110  
Bethesda, MD 20817

#### DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are

punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

### SIGNATURES

Full Name of Sole or First Inventor: JAMES R. HELLUMS

Signature: *James R. Hellums*

Date: 2-14-03 Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

Residence: 12780 FM 86  
Dale, Texas 78616-2630

Post Office Address: Same

Full Name of Second or Joint Inventor: N/A

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Docket No. 3778.00

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**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b))--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

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As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9 (c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41 (a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled below and in:

**SPARE WHEEL ASSEMBLY**

    X     the specification filed herewith.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9 (c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9 (d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 (e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

    X     no such person, concern or organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small business entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28 (b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States

Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

JAMES R. HELLUMS

Name of First Inventor

→ x *James R. Hellums*  
Signature of First Inventor

Date <sup>^</sup> 7-14-03

N/A

Name of Second Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Second Inventor

Date \_\_\_\_\_